

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides a method and system for recovery of file system data in file servers having mirrored file system volumes. The invention makes use of a “snapshot” feature of a robust file system (the “WAFL File System”) disclosed in the Incorporated Disclosures, to rapidly determined which of two or more mirrored volumes is most up-to-date, and which file blocks of the most recent mirrored volume have been changed from each one of the mirrored file systems. In a preferred embodiment, among a plurality of mirrored volumes, the invention rapidly determines which is the most up-to-date by examining a consistency point number maintained by the WAFL File System at each mirrored volume. The invention rapidly pairwise determines what blocks are shared between that most up-to-date mirrored volume and each other mirrored volume, in response to a snapshot of the file system maintained at each mirrored volume and are stored in common pairwise between each mirrored volume and the most up-to-date mirrored volume. The invention re synchronizes only those blocks that have been changed between the common snapshot and the most up-to-date snapshot.